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85. **New Postage Law.**—*Partial Regulations under the New Postal Code,* 1872. *P. O. Department, June* 20, 1872. We have received this pamphlet from Mr. A. H. Curtiss of Virginia. Mr. Curtiss had written to the P. O. Department for information about some stray packages of plants, and received a note from James H. Marr, First Acting Assist. P. M. General, stating that "such packages should be mailed as 3d class mail matter at a pre-paid postage of two cents for each two ounces or fraction thereof," and referring to §§ 133 and 163 of the new Postal Code. Section 133 defines third-class mailable matter, in which are included seeds, cuttings, bulbs, roots, and scions. By the decision of the P. M. General, obtained by Judge Clinton of Buffalo, and recorded in the BULLETIN, Vol. II, No. 3, § 17, "*botanical cuttings*" would come under this head. Section 163 of the New Code gives the rate of postage, "one cent for each two ounces or fraction thereof. Double these rates shall be charged for books, samples of metals, ores, minerals and merchandise prepaid by postage-stamps." Botanical specimens cannot fairly be included in this exception. We suppose that Mr. Marr looked upon them as merchandise, which they in no sense are, we think therefore that upon appeal this decision would be reversed. The packages should be so put up that their contents may be inspected, and there should be no writing, according to law, though there is great inconvenience in sending specimens without a label. The package must not exceed twelve ounces in weight.

86. **New Publications.**—1. *Sequoia and its History.* There are probably few of our readers who have not by this time read Dr. Gray's Presidential address. The sagacity which long ago detected the similarity in the Floras of the eastern shores of the northern continents and its probable explanation, finds additional evidence in Heer's more recent investigation of the fossil botany of the Arctic zone, and Maximowicz's "admirable collections in Japan and adjacent countries." Dr. Gray's discourse is one of the first essays in what must be in the future a leading department in the science, viz: The History of the Evolution of Vegetable Forms.—2. *Synopsis of New York Uncinulæ,* by Chas. H. Peck, Albany. "The species of this genus [of *Erysiphei*] inhabit the living leaves of trees and shrubs, and make their appearance late in summer or in autumn." "The number of species inhabiting this State is unexpectedly large, seven being now known."

87. **Sedges and Grasses.**—All who have specimens of these orders, or know of stations, will oblige us by communicating them at an early day. We are in immediate want, also, of reports on *Potamogetons* and the succeeding orders of *Endogens.*

88. **New Localities.**—Mr. Miller finds *Myrica Gale,* L., abundant at Wading River, and Mr. R. W. Brown reports **Ascyrum stans,** Mchx., from Keyport, N. J.

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Local Herbarium, 3, E. 33d St.—Editor, 224, E. 10th St.

The Club meets regularly the last Tuesday of the month in the Herbarium, Columbia College, at 7½ P.M.